TECHNICAL N

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SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

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DESIGN OF POLYVINYL CHLORIDE (PVC) PIPE

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INTRODUCTION

The use of PVC pipe is increasing rapidly for pressurized pipeline systems. Plastic pipe is readily available in sizes up through 12 inches in diameter with larger sizes coming on the market. The Soil Conservation Service is becoming more involved in the application of PVC pipe for sprinkler irrigation systems, and more information is needed in the field on how to evaluate this pipe in quantitative terms. This report has been prepared to discuss some of the more common questions that arise, particularly relating to the criteria given in the National Handbook of Conservation Practices, Standard 430-DD. It is based on published information, technical papers, and personal experience. Included in the report are two calculator programs for the TI-59 programmable calculator which is now being used widely by SCS Engineers. The programs have received limited use and need further testing. Any comments from users would be welcome.

The information presented is not intended to be a complete study on the subject of waterhammer or on external design of pipelines. Both subjects are complex and are affected by a great many variables and uncertainties. Experience has shown that shortcuts can be made in actual practice that greatly simplify the calculations. However, it is necessary that a certain amount of conservatism be applied when bypassing the more rigorous analysis to compensate for variables that are not evaluated. It is believed that the information presented will be conservative for normal SCS applications providing that proper engineering judgment is applied in evaluating the remaining variables.

WATERHAMMER

GENERAL

National Handbook of Conservation Practices, Standard 430-DD describes the design criteria and limitations of high pressure plastic pipe and appurtenances used in irrigation systems. In the section on Working Pressures and Flow Velocity, it says, "As a safety factor against surge or waterhammer, the working pressure should not exceed 72 percent of the pressure rating of the pipe, and the design flow velocity at system capacity shall not be greater than 5 feet per second. If either of these limits is exceeded, special consideration must be given to the flow condition and measures to adequately protect the pipeline against surge." The purpose of this discussion is to expand on the reasons for these limitations, to discuss protective measures, and to show calculation procedures for waterhammer in PVC pipe. Included as Appendix 4 is a paper entitled

"Waterhammer Calcuations for PVC Pipelines in Irrigation Systems", by W. R. Seipt. This paper is an excellent discussion for the subject and is the basis for much of the material in this Technical Note.

In the simplest terms, waterhammer occurs when water flowing under pressure in a pipeline is subjected to a change in velocity. The energy contained in the flowing water causes pressure surges as the velocity change takes place and a new energy balance is being established. The magnitude of the pressure surges, or waterhammer, depends to some extent upon how fast the velocity change occurs.

Pressure surges as high as 15 times the initial pressures have been recorded in laboratory tests. These surges travel up and down the pipeline from end to end at sonic velocities, the magnitude remaining fairly constant dampened only by water and irregularities in the pipe, pressure relief valves, bends, reductions in pipe size, and interference with reflected waves.

CAUSES AND PROTECTIVE MEASURES

The more common causes of velocity change in a constant size pipeline are listed below:

- Opening or closing a valve.
- 2. Starting or stopping a pump.
- 3. Movement of air along a pipeline.
 - 4. Sudden or rapid removal of air from a pipeline.
 - 5. Water columns that had been separated in a pipe length coming back together.
- 6. Rapid filling of an empty pipeline.

Opening or Closing Valves

The most common activity along a pipeline is the operation of valves. The movement of these valves can cause substantial changes in pipe flows and velocities. If the valves are moved rapidly, serious surge pressures can be induced into the system. To minimize this risk, designers commonly employ gear driven valve operators which require a significant number of revolutions to move the valve from open to closed position, which takes a predictable amount of time to accomplish. It is common to find that closing times may range from 60 seconds to 5 minutes or more to keep the pressure rise at acceptable levels. Quick closing valves or butterfly valve operators that move only 90 degrees from full open to full closed are not recommended.

Starting or Stopping Pumps

Pump operations can cause excessive pressure surges in the pipeline system. Starting up can send a large volume of water up the pipe at a rate that does not allow time for air to be exhausted through air vacuum valves at high points or at ends of lines. The impact as water hits this air cushion can cause surges as well as when the air begins to move up or out of the pipe after the water has

come to a stop. Since air can move so much faster than water, a substantial surge can occur when water flows to fill a void created when the air moves.

Shutting down a pump creates a different but equally dangerous situation. The flow of water in the pipe must come to a stop and reverse directions to flow back towards the pump. If the pipe profile is undulating, then flow may reverse directions in several sections of pipe. All of these locations could experience pressure surges under certain conditions when a column of water impacts upon another column of water or upon some solid object such as a regulating valve, pipe end, or a check valve.

The problem of pump operation is magnified if pumps are subject to power outages and can restart automatically without substantial delay when power is restored. If flow is occurring in the reverse direction when the pump restarts and introduces a fresh surge of direction changes, the pressure surge can be dramatic. In addition, since water still fills the low areas in the pipeline, the new flows will impact the standing water much as it would hit a dead end, or, even worse, a substantial cushion of air may be trapped between the two columns of water. This situation becomes explosive as the pressure builds and the air compresses, then suddenly moves toward a high point in the pipeline.

The most common means of alleviating these kinds of problems includes the use of spring-loaded check valves at the pump which will close before flow reversal takes place when the pump shuts down. An even better device is a solenoid operated valve that automatically closes as soon as the power goes off and before the flow reversal begins. In both of these measures, the idea is to keep the pipe full of water, not allowing reverse flow or water column separation when the pump shuts down. If automatic restarting is not needed, a good practice is to install a manual valve near the pump and always start it against a closed valve which can be gradually opened at an acceptable rate of filling for the pipe. The designer of this type of system must be sure that the pump and motor selected will not be damaged by operation in this manner.

Other devices such as time delay relays, pumps that allow backflow through them, and surge anticipation valves, surge tanks, and pressure relief valves are used to limit pressure surges to acceptable levels.

Movement of Air Along & Pipeline

Virtually all irrigation water contains some percentage of dissolved air. A poorly designed intake structure of pump intake system can contribute additional quantities of air which will tend to come out of solution as the pressure in the system fluctuates. The air accumulates along the top of the pipe and works toward high points where, hopefully, continuous acting air-vacuum release valves have been installed to remove the air in an orderly fashion. Unfortunately, for reasons that are not completely understood, the air sometimes collects into sizeable pockets along the top of the pipe and then suddenly "squirts" to another location. The air moves so much faster than water that a void is created and water rushes from all directions to fill the void literally crashing into the pipe walls and into itself. In some cases, this can cause substantial pressure surges. Obviously, this problem is much more common in pipelines built on very flat terrain where the air can accumulate over long sections before collective movement occurs.

Sudden or Rapid Removal of Air From a Pipeline

If a sizeable air pocket is allowed to accumulate in a pipeline, then compressed as pressure is applied, a highly explosive pressure surge will occur if the air is suddenly evacuated. Some farmers have been unwilling witnesses to this type of surge when they opened an irrigation riser in a section of pipe where air has accumulated. Manually operated air release valves are not recommended for this reason. It is essential that all possible precautions be taken in design and installation to prevent "traps" where air can accumulate during pipeline operation. If the pipe is carefully laid to a uniform grade with continuous acting air-vacuum valves at all high points, this problem should be minimized. In the case of very flat grades, additional air-vacuum valves may be installed at 1000 foot to 1500 foot intervals.

Water Column Separation

Water column separation is generally associated with starting or stopping pumps but may occur under other conditions. If the demand for water out of a system fluctuates widely, pressures could drop enough at some high points to create a slight vacuum and cause an air-vacuum valve to inject air into the pipe. Other examples would be when a gravity inlet to the pipe experiences intermittent plugging with debris or when a fluctuating water supply does not provide enough water to keep up with the demand at all times. Once the air is trapped inside the pipeline, then the situation is as described in the two preceeding sections. The best solution to this problem is to prevent the introduction of air into the system if at all possible, through better design at the inlet and better operating procedures to prevent widely fluctuating flows.

Rapid Filling of an Empty Pipeline

Many experienced pipeline designers feel that the most critical time in the life of a pipeline is during the filling process. It is during this time that the opportunity for pressure surges is greatest because air is being evacuated as the pipe fills. Low points in the line fill first and create a series of separated water columns in the pipe. If the filling rate is greater than the capacity of the air-vacuum valves to remove air or if any air-vacuum valve malfunctions, then substantial air pockets may be trapped in the line as the pressure rises with all the dangers previously described. It is essential that pipelines be filled slowly and carefully, with someone checking each air-vacuum valve as it is evacuating the air to be sure that it functions properly and doesn't close until all the air is gone.

DESIGN CRITERIA

In an attempt to avoid the tedious and difficult computations for waterhammer in routine pipeline design, PVC pipe manufacturers have made recommendations of limits for designers to use that should provide an adequate safety factor to accommodate surges under normal conditions. The values quoted from the NHCP represent these recommendations and have been widely used by designers both in and out of SCS with good success.

In many cases it is not possible or practical to design within the general limits described in Standard 430-DD. The project may be more complex and should be considered as beyond the "normal conditions" suitable for using generalized assumptions.

When this occurs, the standard allows the designer to make a more detailed analysis. "If either of these limits are exceeded (design pressure exceeds 72 percent of the pressure rating of the pipe or velocity exceeds 5 feet per second), special consideration must be given to the flow conditions and measures to adequately protect the pipeline against surge."

A realistic review of the causes of velocity change reveals that once the air-vacuum valves and pressure relief valves are in place, nearly everything else hinges on the operation of the system by the users. If a pump supplies the pressure, then stopping and starting the pump is a critical factor in the evaluation. The operation of valves and filling procedures are critical factors in both pumped and gravity pipelines. The designer must make an honest appraisal of expected operation procedures before a meaningful calculation of waterhammer can be made.

WATERHAMMER CALCULATIONS

Determination of the actual amount of pressure rise due to waterhammer will usually clarify what remedial measures may be needed to assure safe operation of the pipeline. Often the decision is an economic one comparing the costs and benefits of installing a stronger pipe versus slow-closing valves or a combination of both.

Generalized equations for the calculation of pressure rise due to waterhammer are rather cumbersome, but can be simplified considerably when evaluating PVC pipe specifically. When considering instantaneous closure (defined as when the velocity change occurs in less than 2L/a), the pressure rise is simply 79.22 times the change in velocity divided by (SDR-0.443) where L is the length of pipeline affected by the pressure surge, in feet; a is the velocity of the pressure surge in the pipe, in feet per second; and SDR is the standard dimension ratio or the ratio of outside diameter to wall thickness. This means that water flowing to a dead end of a pipe or by closing a valve in less time than double* that calculated above will create an increase in pressure in the pipe to the magnitude calculated. The PVC pipe to be used in this case must have a pressure rating greater than the sum of the operating pressure plus the calculated pressure rise.

If the velocity change occurs in a longer time than that calculated above, the magnitude of pressure increase may be substantially less than for instantaneous closure. The pressure rise is usually determined for this condition by calculating coefficients required to enter a chart such as the Allievi Chart. A valve closing time is required in determining the coefficients. The chart yields a percent of pressure rise which can easily be converted to feet and/or psi for a problem at hand. Again, this value is added to the operating pressure required and a pipe is selected with a pressure rating greater than the total pressure. As an alternative, a slower valve closing time may be selected and the procedure used to find the resulting pressure rise. This process may be continued to find the most practical combination of pipe strength and valve closing time. Care must be taken to insure that the selected valve closing time* is one that can realistically be expected to occur in actual practice.

^{*}The actual closing time must be double that used in calculations because more than 90 percent of the velocity change will take place while closing the valve only 50 percent for most types of valves.

A program has been developed for the TI-59 programmable calculator (Appendix 1) to perform the pressure rise calculations described above for PVC pipe. It is also designed to perform the hydraulic calculations for PVC pipe in accordance with the criteria in NHCP. The user can either solve for flow rate, Q, or for head loss due to friction, H_{L} , for a given set of conditions. Successive trials with varying conditions can be easily performed.

The waterhammer analysis is straight forward but is limited to single pipe sizes and requires the use of the Allievi Chart (Appendix 2) to find the percent pressure rise for timed closures greater than the critical closure time. Idaho Appendix #4 to the Engineering Field Manual (Appendix 3) provides needed PVC pipe properties to use in the input data. Several trials of pipe sizes and pressure ratings can be performed rapidly to find the best combination of pipe strength and valve opening speeds.

GENERAL John

EXTERNAL LOAD DESIGN OF FLEXIBLE PIPES

It is common practice to specify a minimum depth of cover over pipelines without any further concern about the supporting strength of the pipe. As more pipe failures are being reported, it is becoming apparent that designers should take a look at the external loads that are being applied to the pipelines and determine that the pipe has adequate strength to support that load.

Buried flexible pipes derive their ability to support external loads from their inherent strength plus the passive resistence pressure of the soil as they deflect and the sides of the pipe move outward against the soil side fills. This type of pipe fails by excessive deflection and collapsing or buckling rather than by rupturing of the pipe walls as in the case of pipes made of brittle materials. For these reasons it is essential that the designers and constructors have a common understanding of the nature of the bedding and backfill material around the pipe. Specifications must be clearly written so that the contractor can install the material as the designer intended to give adequate support to the pipe walls.

From this it can be seen that the design of flexible pipes is directed toward determination of the amount of deflection that can be expected to occur, given the loads and strength of the pipe and soil around the sides.

DESIGN PROCEDURE

The Modified Iowa Formula is one of the most widely used equations for finding the amount of deflection in flexible pipes. Its solution yields the deflection in the horizontal direction. Since the pipeline designer needs to know the vertical deflection, a simple relationship exists in that the vertical deflection is approximately 10% greater than the horizontal deflection. The Modified Iowa Formula is generally written:

$$\Delta X = \frac{D_L (K) (WC) r^3}{EI + 0.061 (E') r^3}$$

Where: D_{i} = Deflection lag factor

K = Bedding constant

WC = Total load on the pipe, in pounds per linear inch

r = Mean radius of the pipe, in inches

E = Modulus of elasticity of the pipe material, in psi

I = Moment of inertia of the pipe wall per unit length, in inches 3

E' = Modulus of soil reaction, in psi

 ΔX = Horizontal deflection or change in diameter, in inches

The deflection lag factor is an empirical value selected to compensate for the time period over which the pipe will continue to deflect. It ranges from 1.25 to 1.5.

The bedding constant depends upon the angle subtended by the pipe bedding and ranges between 0.08 and 0.110.

The load on the pipe, WC, is composed of the sum of the superimposed live load and the weight of the soil on top of the pipe. The live load usually ranges between 16,000 pounds (HS-20) and 10,000 pounds. An impact factor is commonly applied to live loads for pipes with less than four feet of cover. This factor usually ranges from 1.1 to 1.5. The dead load used in this equation is the weight of a prism of soil over the pipe. No adjustment is made for varying trench widths as in the Spangler equations.

The modulus of soil reaction has been derived empirically by examining over 1000 buried pipes. It has a significant effect on the deflection of the pipe and must be carefully selected to represent actual field conditions. It is essential that the specifications and on-site inspection be adequate to insure that the installation will achieve the conditions assumed for the soil modulus selected. A program for the TI-59 has been prepared (Appendix 5) to solve the Modified Iowa Equation with a minimum of input data by the user. Conservative values have been pre-selected for the deflection lag factor and the bedding constant and inserted in the program. The program automatically calculates the vertical deflection in percent and in inches based on the users input conditions.

<u>APPENDIX</u>

- 1. TI-59 Program for PVC Pipe Hydraulics and Waterhammer Analysis.
- 2. Allievi Chart for Finding Pressure Rise Due to Waterhammer.
- 3. Plastic Pipe Dimensions, Idaho Appendix #4, Engineering Field Manual.
- 4. "Waterhammer Calculation for PVC Pipeline in Irrigation Systems", by W.R. Seipt.
- 5. TI-59 Program for External Load Design in Flexible Pipe.

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Appendix 1 AGE 1 OF 4

TI Programmable

Program Record

PROGRAMMER Karl Larson Partitioning (Op 17) 6 3 9 3 9

Nov. 1981

Printer Yes Cards 2-4 sides

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

User can solve for either flow rate, Q, or head loss, H_L, in the hydraulic portion of the program. Basic equations are the Hazen-Williams using a coefficient of 150.

Q = 1.318 (C) (A) (R.63) (S.54) and H_L =
$$\frac{4.73 \text{ (L) } (Q^{1.852})}{c^{1.652} (D^{4.87})}$$

Library Module

To find Q, the user must input the inside pipe diameter in inches, and the slope of the hydraulic grade line in feet/foot. To find head loss, the user must input pipe length in feet and pipe diameter in inches. The calculator finds the unknowns and prints pipe cross-sectional area and velocity.

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PVC PIPE HYDRAULICS AND WATERHAMMER ANALYSIS

PAGE 1 OF 4 TI Programmable PAGE Nov. 1981 Coding Form

Karl Larson PROGRAMMER.

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Appendix 1 PAGE 2 OF 4

TI Programmable

Program Record

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Karl Larson **PROGRAMMER**

DATE Nov. 1981

Partitioning (Op 17) 6.3.9.3.9 Library Module

Printer Yes Cards 2-lisides

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Waterhammer program is based on a constant size pipe and a definable length. User must input the outside diameter-wall thickness ratio (SDR) for the trial run, the expected velocity change, and the length of pipe. The calculator finds the critical closure time (2L/A) and the magnitude of pressure rise for the so-called "instantaneous closure". User can then input the designed operating pressure and the calculator will find the velocity of the pressure wave, C, and the pipeline constant, K. User then inputs the trial closure time (which must be greater than the instantaneous time found above) and the calculator finds the time constant, R. The values of K and R are used in the Allievi Chart to find the percent of pressure rise, which is inputted in the program and the calculator then finds the actual pressure rise in feet, in psi, and the

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6.	Using K and R in the Allievi Chart, find th	e			
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TI Programmable (Coding Form

Karl Larson PROGRAMMER_

DATE Nov 1981

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PAGE 3 OF 4 TI Programmable Separate Nov 1981 Coding Form

PROGRAMMER Karl Larson

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PVC PIPE HYDRAULICS AND WATERHAMMER ANALYSIS

MATER ANALYSIS

PAGE 4 OF 4 TI Programmable To Coding Form

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Coding Form

PROGRAMMER

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# EXAMPLE PROBLEM

Given: Design operating pressure = 65 psi

Trial Pipe Diameter = 12" Nominal PIP, SDR = 41

Slope of Hydraulic Grade Line = .01 ft/ft
Length of Pipeline = 1,320 feet.

# Procedure

- 1. From Appendix 3, find inside diameter is 11.64 inches. Input 11.64, Press A.
- 2. Input 0.01, Press B.
- 3. Press D.

# Results

- 1. Calculator prints out 4.977 cfs.
- Cross-section area of pipe = 0.739 feet.
- 3. Flow Velocity is 6.736 feet/second.

Check waterhammer for a valve closure at the end of the pipeline.

- 1. Input change in velocity = 6.8, Press second D.
- 2. Input SDR = 41, Press C.
- 3. Input length of pipe, L = 1320, Press E.
- 4. Calculator prints out critical closure time, 2L/A = 2.85 seconds.
- 5. Calculator prints out the pressure rise, DELP, for any valve closure time less than the critical time. DELP = 84.59 psi

NOTE: This pressure rise could be expected if the pipe were filled too rapidly with the design Q against a closed valve or the deadend of the pipe, as well as when closing the valve in less than 2.85 seconds. (Actually the minimum closure time is 2.85 x 2 = 5.70 seconds. See footnote on page 5 of Technical Note.)

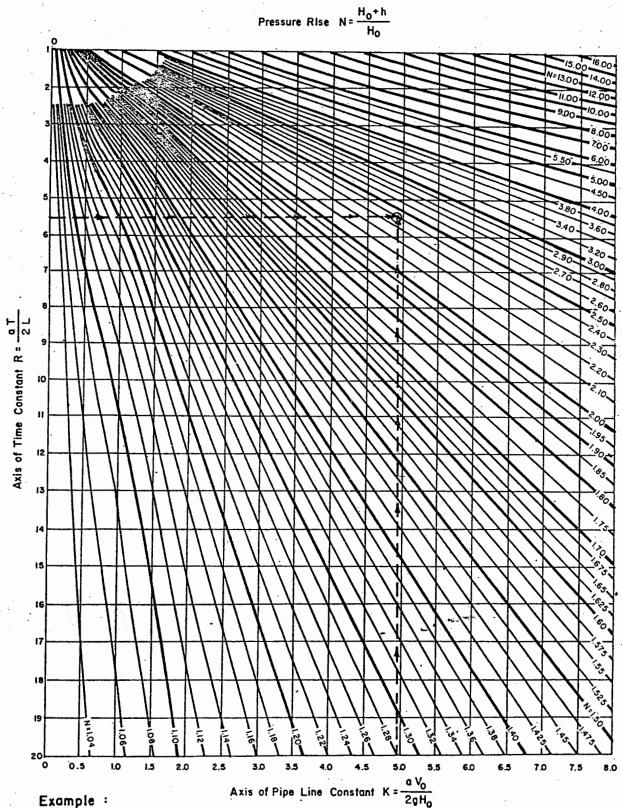
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- 6. Check effect of slower valve closure. Input design operating pressure= 65 psi. Press second B.
- 7. Calculator prints shock wave velocity and the pipeline constant, K = 0.65.
- 8. Input trial valve closure time = 20 seconds. Press second C.
- 9. Calculator prints the Time constant, R = 7.01.
- 10. Using K and R found above, enter the Allievi Chart (Appendix 2) and find the percent pressure rise = 1.11.
- 11. Input percent pressure rise = 1.11, Press R/S.

a G.A. Frass second Date

12. Calculator prints pressure rise, in psi, HPSI = 7.15, and Total pressure on the pipe, HTOT = 72.15 psi.

This means that if the actual valve closure time is greater than 20 x 2 = 40 seconds, then pressures in the system should not exceed 72 psi.



Example :

Given: a = 4,000 fps; L=2,000 ft; T=5.5 sec. H_= 100ft; V_= 8 fps

Find: R=5.5;K = 4.96 then N=2.4;h=140ft

Reference : Engineering Topics 3 (AP)

FIGURE 13

EXCESS PRESSURES RESULTING FROM WATER HAMMER

PRELIMINARY DRAWING, SUBJECT TO REVIEW

# PLASTIC PIPE DIMENSIONS

And Type	Pipe Diameter	PSI Rating	0.D.	I.D.	Area
4" Nominal 4" PIP Lowhead 4" PIP SDR 51 4" PIP SDR 51 4" PIP SDR 41 4" PIP SDR 41 100 4.13 3.968 0.0859 4" PIP SDR 32.5 125 4.13 3.968 0.0842 4" PIP SDR 32.5 125 4.13 3.876 0.0819 4" IPS SDR 64 63 4.50 4.280 0.0999 4" IPS SDR 32.5 125 4.50 4.280 0.0999 4" IPS SDR 26 160 4.50 4.50 4.154 0.0941 4" IPS SDR 26 160 4.50 4.50 4.172 0.0904 4" IPS SDR 21 200 4.50 4.50 4.072 0.0904 5" Nominal 5" IPS SDR 64 63 5.563 5.291 0.153 5" IPS SDR 26 160 5.563 5.221 0.149 5" IPS SDR 21 200 5.563 5.221 0.149 5" IPS SDR 21 200 5.563 5.033 0.138 6" Nominal 6" Nominal 6" PIP Lowhead 22 6.14 6.00 0.196 6" PIP SDR 41 100 6.14 5.988 0.195 6" PIP SDR 41 100 6.14 5.988 0.195 6" PIP SDR 41 100 6.14 5.980 0.190 6" PIP SDR 41 100 6.14 5.840 0.186 6" PIP SDR 32.5 6" IPS SDR 64 63 66.625 6.117 0.225 6" IPS SDR 21 200 6.625 6.301 0.217 6" IPS SDR 21 200 6.625 6.301 0.204 6" IPS SDR 21 200 6.625 6.301 0.204 6" IPS SDR 21 200 6.625 6.301 0.349 8" PIP SDR 51 80 8.16 7.958 0.345 8" IPS SDR 41 100 8.625 8.095 0.367 8" IPS SDR 32.5 125 8.625 8.095 0.367 8" IPS SDR 32.5 125 8.625 8.095 0.346					
5" IPS SDR 64         63         5.563         5.389         0.158           5" IPS SDR 41         100         5.563         5.291         0.153           5" IPS SDR 32.5         125         5.563         5.221         0.149           5" IPS SDR 26         160         5.563         5.135         0.144           5" IPS SDR 21         200         5.563         5.033         0.138           6" Nominal           6.00         0.196           6" PIP Lowhead         22         6.14         6.00         0.196           6" PIP SDR 51         80         6.14         5.900         0.195           6" PIP SDR 41         100         6.14         5.840         0.186           6" PIP SDR 32.5         125         6.14         5.762         0.181           6" IPS SDR 64         63         6.625         6.417         0.225           6" IPS SDR 32.5         125         6.625         6.311         0.211           6" IPS SDR 26         160         6.625         6.217         0.211           6" IPS SDR 26         160         6.625         6.315         0.349           8" PIP SDR 51         80         8.16	4" Nominal 4" PIP Lowhead 4" PIP 4" PIP SDR 51 4" PIP SDR 41 4" PIP SDR 32.5 4" IPS SDR 64 4" IPS SDR 41 4" IPS SDR 32.5 4" IPS SDR 32.5	22 50 80 100 125 63 100 125 160	4.13 4.13 4.13 4.13 4.13 4.50 4.50 4.50 4.50	4.00 4.00 4.00 3.968 3.928 3.876 4.360 4.280 4.224 4.154	0.0873 0.0873 0.0873 0.0859 0.0842 0.0819 0.1037 0.0999 0.0973
6" PIP Lowhead         22         6.14         6.00         0.196           6" PIP         50         6.14         5.988         0.195           6" PIP SDR 51         80         6.14         5.900         0.190           6" PIP SDR 32.5         125         6.14         5.840         0.186           6" PIP SDR 32.5         125         6.14         5.762         0.181           6" IPS SDR 64         63         6.625         6.417         0.225           6" IPS SDR 32.5         125         6.625         6.301         0.217           6" IPS SDR 32.5         125         6.625         6.217         0.211           6" IPS SDR 26         160         6.625         6.115         0.204           6" IPS SDR 21         200         6.625         5.993         0.196           8" Nominal           8.00         0.349           8" PIP Lowhead         22         8.16         8.00         0.349           8" PIP SDR 51         80         8.16         7.958         0.345           8" PIP SDR 41         100         8.16         7.762         0.329           8" IPS SDR 64         63         8.625         8.355	5" IPS SDR 64 5" IPS SDR 41 5" IPS SDR 32.5 5" IPS SDR 26	100 125 160	5.563 5.563 5.563	5.389 5.291 5.221 5.135	0.158 0.153 0.149 0.144
	6" PIP Lowhead 6" PIP 6" PIP SDR 51 6" PIP SDR 41 6" PIP SDR 32.5 6" IPS SDR 64 6" IPS SDR 32.5 6" IPS SDR 32.5 6" IPS SDR 26 6" IPS SDR 26 6" IPS SDR 21 8" Nominal 8" PIP Lowhead 8" PIP 8" PIP SDR 51 8" PIP SDR 41 8" PIP SDR 41 8" PIP SDR 32.5 8" IPS SDR 64 8" IPS SDR 41 8" IPS SDR 32.5 8" IPS SDR 26	50 80 100 125 63 100 125 160 200  22 50 80 100 125 63 100 125 160	6.14 6.14 6.14 6.625 6.625 6.625 6.625 6.625 8.16 8.16 8.16 8.16 8.16 8.625 8.625 8.625	6.00 5.988 5.900 5.840 5.762 6.417 6.301 6.217 6.115 5.993 8.00 8.00 7.958 7.840 7.762 7.658 8.355 8.205 8.095 7.961	0.196 0.195 0.190 0.186 0.181 0.225 0.217 0.211 0.204 0.196 0.349 0.349 0.345 0.335 0.329 0.320 0.381 0.367 0.357 0.346

(Cont.)

IDAHO APPENDIX #4 -2-ENGINEERING FIELD MANUAL Rev. 12/81

Pipe Diameter	PSI Rating	0.D.	I.D.	Area
And Type	PVC 1120 & 1220	Inches	Inches	Sq. Ft.
10" Nominal 10" PIP Lowhead 10" PIP 10" PIP SDR 51 10" PIP SDR 41 10" PIP SDR 32.5 10" IPS SDR 64 10" IPS SDR 41 10" IPS SDR 32.5 10" IPS SDR 26.0 10" IPS SDR 21.0	22 50 80 100 125 63 100 125 160 200	10.20 10.20 10.20 10.20 10.20 10.750 10.750 10.750 10.750	10.00 10.00 9.948 9.800 9.702 9.572 10.414 10.226 10.088 9.924 9.728	0.545 0.545 0.540 0.524 0.513 0.500 0.592 0.570 0.555 0.537 0.516
12" Nominal 12" PIP Lowhead 12" PIP 12" PIP SDR 51 12" PIP SDR 41 12" PIP SDR 32.5 12" IPS SDR 64 12" IPS SDR 41 12" IPS SDR 32.5 12" IPS SDR 26.0 12" IPS SDR 21.0	22 50 80 100 125 63 100 125 160 200	12.24 12.24 12.24 12.24 12.750 12.750 12.750 12.750 12.750	12.00 12.00 11.938 11.760 11.642 11.486 12.352 12.128 11.966 11.770 11.538	0.785 0.785 0.777 0.754 0.739 0.720 0.832 0.802 0.781 0.756 0.726
14" Nominal 14" PIP Lowhead 14" PIP 14" PIP SDR 51 14" PIP SDR 41 14" PIP SDR 32.5	22 50 80 100 125	14.28 14.28 14.28 14.28 14.28 14.28	14.00 14.00 13.928 13.720 13.584 13.402	1.069 1.069 1.058 1.027 1.006 0.980
15" Nominal 15" PIP Lowhead 15" PIP 15" PIP SDR 51 15" PIP SDR 41 15" PIP SDR 32.5	22 50 80 100 125	15.30 15.30 15.30 15.30 15.30	15.00 15.00 14.922 14.700 14.554 14.358	1.23 1.23 1.21 1.18 1.15 1.12

# Waterhammer Considerations for PVC Pipeline in Irrigation Systems

W. R. Seipt

PRESSURE REDUCING VALVE

& RATE OF FLOW CONTROLLER

CHECK VALVE

#### ABSTRACT

WATERHAMMER pressure develops whenever flow is changed. Flow changes occur by operating valves, by starting or stopping pumps, or by sudden release of entrapped air. Its intensity depends upon the rate of change. On occasion, it damages piping. Waterhammer can be contained by: adequate design; proper installation and responsible use.

#### INTRODUCTION

A good irrigation system, providing satisfactory long term service, should have the lowest investment cost practical. An important part of any irrigation system is the underground piping to deliver the water from its source to the irrigation means (i.e. a sprinkler or the like), Fig. 1.

Poly (vinyl chloride), PVC, is an inexpensive piping material which, like any piping material, when adequately designed, properly engineered, properly installed, and responsibly used, will perform satisfactorily. The ways in which waterhammer is restrained to within acceptable bounds is a major consideration too often ignored.

One purpose of this paper is to draw attention to waterhammer, its causes, its extent and its effect. The second purpose is to emphasize the need to contain waterhammer forces through design, installation and use of an irrigation sys-

Everyone has at one time or another experienced waterhammer. You hear it when a spigot is suddenly closed—pipes shake and simultaneously emit a sharp, hammer-like noise. Unbridled, waterhammer often does more than just vibrate and jar the piping; it imposes damage to the system—sometimes to a considerable extent, even to blowing pipe out of the ground, Fig. 2.

Article was submitted for publication in November 1973; reviewed and approved for publication by the Soil and Water Division of ASAE in January 1974. Presented as ASAE Paper No. 73-233.

The author is: W.R. SEIPT, Manager, Sales Engineering, Certain-teed Products Corp., Valley Forge, Pa.

VACUUM RELIEF
VALVE

VALVE

FERTILIZATION
INJECTION

FIG. 1 Underground PVC piping irrigation system.

#### BASIC CONSIDERATIONS

To understand waterhammer and its control, it is necessary to review the basic physical principle involved. Waterhammer occurs when water under pressure in a pipe line is subjected to a change in its rate of flow, (i.e. its velocity). The intensity of the waterhammer, evidenced as a surge in pressure, depends among other things upon the rapidity with which the velocity is altered.

Water flowing through a pipe bears energy. Part of this energy is kinetic, due to the velocity. Part is potential, a result of pressure. The sum of two energies (ignoring friction losses) remains constant throughout the line. Simply explained, whenever the velocitychanges there follows a change in kinetic energy. Since the system does not essentially gain or lose energy, a compensating change occurs in potential energy with a corresponding change in pressure. Hence, when a valve is closed quickly and flow is brought to a rather sudden halt, relatively high pressures develop on the upstream side of the valve. This pressure-increase produces pressure-waves which travel the pipe and water system at sonic velocities-an effect designated waterhammer, see Figs. 3 and 4.

Since any change in water velocity produces a change in pressure, the velocity change should be made gradually so as to prevent excessive pressure increases.

CAUSES OF VARYING VELOCITY
Water velocity in a pipe of constant

cross-sectional area will vary due to any one of the following conditions:

PRESSURE

RELIFF

1 Closing a valve

AIR RELIEF

- 2 Opening a valve
- 3 Rythmic valve operation
- 4 Starting a pump (especially a centrifugal pump, with or without a check valve in the pump discharge)
- 5 Stopping a pump
- 6 Pulsation of an operating reciprocating pump
- 7 Movement of air pockets along a pipe line
- 8 Sudden or rapid release of air from a pipe line
- 9 Sudden halt in flow when air has been exhausted out of an air release value
- Recombination after watercolumn separation

#### INTENSITY OF WATERHAMMER PRESSURE

The increase of pressure in a pipeline full of flowing water due to a change in water velocity can be determined by the equation:

 $\Delta P = Ca (\Delta V)$ 

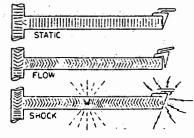
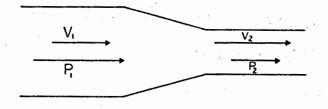


FIG. 2 Waterhammer generation.



$$P_1/w + V_1^2/2g$$
 =  $P_2/w + V_2^2/2g$ 

PCTENTIAL + KINETIC ENERGY | ENERGY | ENERGY | ENERGY |

FIG. 3 Water flow energy adjustment.

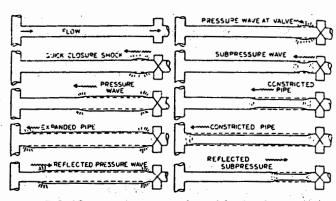


FIG. 4 Pressure wave propagation quick valve closure.

Where:

 $\Delta P$ pressure increase, psi  $\Delta V$ velocity change, ft per

sonic velocity of pressure wave in pipe-water sys-

tem, ft per sec

w/144g, a constant

w/144weight, lb per sq in. of a 1-ft column of water

acceleration of gravity, 32.2 ft per sec per sec

$$a = \frac{12}{\sqrt{\frac{w}{g} \left(\frac{1}{k} + \frac{C_1 d}{Et}\right)}}$$

Where:

K = bulk modulus of water, 300,000 psi

Ε modulus of elasticity of pipe material, 425,000 psi Type I PVC

pipe inside diameter, in.

pipe wall thickness, in.

a factor dependent on pipeend conditions and poisson ratio of the pipe material (anchored one end only for PVC  $C_1 = 0.95$ ; anchored both ends but free at midlength for PVC  $C_1 = 0.85$ )

$$\overline{PR} = \frac{\frac{4000}{2}}{\frac{\text{(SDR-1)}}{2}}$$

Where:

PR = pressure (class) rating, psi

= design hoop stress, psi with a 2:1 safety factor

#### EFFECT OF VARYING VELOCITY

If we restrict waterhammer pressure to  $\Delta P' = 0.2857 \ \overline{PR}$  (based on a 2.8:1 safety factor) thereby allowing the remaining portion of the class rating, i.e. 0.7143 PR to represent the maximum operating pressures.

$$0.7143 \, \overline{PR} = \frac{\left(\frac{4000}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2}{2.8}\right)}{\frac{(SDR-1)}{2}} =$$

Hence 
$$\Delta P' = \frac{1143}{(SDR-1)} = \frac{79.22 \, \Delta V'}{\sqrt{SDR-0.443}}$$

From which  $\Delta V' =$ 

See Table 1.

Hence a sudden change in velocity of 2.92 ft per sec ( $\Delta V' = 2.92$ ) will produce a maximum waterhammer pressure in an SDR 26 PVC pipe of

$$\Delta P = 15.67 \times \Delta V' = 15.67 \times 2.92 = \frac{1}{2}$$

45.5 psi

#### EFFECTS FROM AIR MOVEMENT

A very important factor affecting waterhammer pressures is that due to movement of air pockets. The seriousness of entrapped air is not generally realized nor understood. When an air pocket becomes suddenly dislodged, as by a stream of flowing water, the extent of changes in "local" fluid velocities and

Table 1. Wave velocity, waterhammer, water velocity change VS~ PVC SDR

SDR	PR	A 42 A 42 A	P	ΔΥ΄	
OD/wall ratio	Pressure rating, psi.	Surge velocity ft per sec	Waterhammer, psi per ΔV	Instant velocity change max, ft per sec	
81	50	656	8.8	1.6	
51 41	80 .100	829 925	11.1 12.4	2.1 2.3	
32.5	125	1040	14.0	2.6	
26	160	1165	1 5.7	2.9	
21	200	1300	17.5	3.3	

PR 4000/(SDR-1) D/t = (d/t) + 2

5892/V SDR-0.443

79.22 ∆V/√ SDR-0.443

14.43 SDR-0.443/SDR-1

NOTE: The instantaneous velocity change produces P = 0.2857 x PR

using  $C_1 = 0.91$ , for PVC type I SDR-0.443 and

The pressure (class) rating of PVC Type I, Grade I is determined by

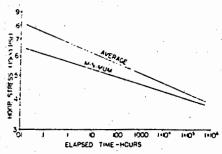


FIG. 5 PVC pipe, type I, grade I hoop stress regression (at 73.4 F).

the consequent waterhammer pressures are often much in excess of that accounted for by the general theory. Sometimes waterhammer pressures of several hundred psi or more are believed to develop. With PVC, as with any plastic piping, the effect of air entrapment is suspected to be more pronounced because air bubbles appear to "stick" more to plastic surfaces, hence the quantity of air entrapped at a particular point would be greater than that at surfaces of more wettable material. If such is the case, the larger quantity of air when finally dislodged would have the more devastating effect. For this reason, it is most important to rid PVC piping of air and to prevent air from getting into the system. Avoiding or getting rid of air is particularly difficult for an irrigation system because of the many times throughout the irrigation season the system is started and stopped.

#### WATERHAMMER DAMAGE

Unless steps are taken to restrict waterhammer pressures, damage may occur to one or many of the irrigation system elements, such as pumps, valves, or piping. Depending upon the intensity (SDR-1) of the waterhammer pressure will determine the severity of the damage. Piping may suffer a hydrostatic burst, confined to the area of the waterhammer origin. More often, however, the pressure wave will propagate with little loss of intensity ahead of an ensuing burst propagation, thereby continuing to rend the pipe up to that point where it meets sufficient resistance to restrain its damaging force. Such a point of resistance may be at a joint. If the joint is of monolithic construction, i.e. one pipe length welded to the next or a pipe socket welded into an adjacent bell, the resistance to burst propagation is minimal and too frequently the damaging force will continue on through one or more such joints. Discontinuous joints, represented by rubber-gasketed seals, usually offer adequate resistance to stop a burst propagation. While gasketed

joints do not remedy waterhammer damage, at least they generally reduce the extent of the damage considerably.

#### ADEQUATE DESIGN: PVC SAFETY FACTOR

A very misunderstood concept in PVC pipe design is its pressure (class) rating, and the safety factor attended thercto. The graph, Fig. 5, is a typical regression plot of PVC pipe, in which the ordinate is the log of pipe wall hoop stress in psi and the abscissa is the log of the time to failure, hour.

On this plot, when the stress is elevated to 6400 psi (3.2 times the class rating), the pipe will burst hydrostatically in 0.018 hr (65 sec) or longer. If pressured to a hoop stress of 4000 psi, burst will not occur before 100 000 hr. If, however, the pipe is stressed at 4000 psi for a period less than 100 000 hr, say 20 000 hr, it will still retain its original strength, i.e. it will burst at 6400 psi at or in excess of 65 sec.

Hence, the hydrostatic design basis has been established as 4000 psi. Then, by applying a 2:1 safety factor, the hydrostatic design stress is 2000 psi. Based upon the hoop stress formula, the pressure (class) rating of the pipe is determined from a hoop stress of 2000

$$\frac{4000}{\overline{PR}} = \frac{\frac{4000}{2}}{\frac{(D-t)}{2t}} = \frac{4000}{(SDR-1)}$$
 (ISO Formula)

Therefore after 10 years at the pressure rating, it can be said with certainty, and even after 100 years at the pressure rating it is reasonable to expect that PVC Type I, Grade I pipe will still retain all of its original strength.

Many manufacturers of PVC pipe advocate the use of a 2:1 safety factor, which means that they promote the use of their pipe at a maximum operating pressure equal to the pressure (class) rating of the pipe. No provisions are thereby made to allow for waterhammer pressures within the pressure (class) rating of the pipe. However, we at Certain-teed believe strongly that the maximum operating pressure plus surge allowance should not exceed the pressure (class) rating. Experience has taught that a 2:1 safety factor is not

TABLE 2. PVC MAXIMUM OPERATING PRESSURE FORMULA

	OP =	HDB/S.F.	
IVI	OP =	(D-t)/2t	
	=	4000/2.8	
	-	(SDR-1)/2	
	_	1430	
	_	(SDR-1)/2	
	=	2860	
		SDR-1	

MOP Max. operating pressure, psi. Hydrostatic design basis, psi. HDB

Safety factor S.F. Pipe outside dia., in. Pipe wall thickness, in. SDR = Std. Dimensional Ratio

adequate. For irrigation pipe, we recommend the maximum operating pressure not exceed 72 percent of the pressure (class) rating. This corresponds to a hoop stress of 1430 psi, or a safety factor of 2.8:1, see Table 2.

Hucks (1972) has shown that PVC exhibits also a cyclic stress regression curve, completely independent of the steady-state regression curve already discussed. Wilging(1972) in discussing Hucks' paper, graphically depicts the 2.8:1 safety factor, Fig. 6.

Using a 2.8:1 safety factor with a maximum hoop stress of 1430 psi plus a peak cyclic stress of 570 psi on top of that (a total of 2000 psi stress), the expected number of cycles to failure is 500 000. With an irrigation service life of 50 years, and a growing season of 80 days per year, this would allow 120 cycles per day, a factor probably 10 times that expected. Hence a 2.8:1 safety factor appears adequate.

In designing an irrigation system, it is important therefore to select pipe of an adequate pressure (class) rating. For example, if the maximum operating pressure is 90 psi, then a pipe of 125 psi rating (SDR 32.5) would be selected in order to provide a 2.8:1 safety factor.

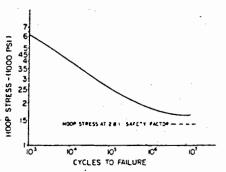


FIG. 6 PVC pipe, type I, grade I hoop stress versus cycle to failure.

TABLE 3. PVC MAXIMUM OPERATING PRESSURE ~VS~ SDR

SDR	PR	MOP
OD/wall ratio	Pressure (class) rating	Max. operating pressure psi
81	50	35
51	80	55
41 .	100	. 70
32.5	125	. 90
26	160	115
21	200	145

SDR = D/t

PR = 4000

SDR-1 MOP = 0.71 x PR = 2840/(SDR-1)

D = Pipe outside diameter, in.
t = Pipe wall thickness, in.
SDR = Standard dimensional ratio

PR = Pressure (class) rating, psi.

MOP = Maximum operating pressure, psi.

The Table 3 of maximum operating pressures, comply with the 2.8:1 safety factor:

Low head (50-ft) irrigation pipe should be used only for gravity flow systems, and should not have a valve in the discharge end of the line. Where a head gate or an entrance valve is used to stop or throttle flow, a vacuum-breaker valve should be installed immediately downstream from the entrance valve.

#### ADEQUATE DESIGN: VELOCITY AND PRESSURE

Waterhammer pressure due to closing a valve: the time required upon closing a valve for the pressure wave to travel from the valve to the pressure source and reflect back to the valve is given by the equation:

ne Where the testes of erole in his men

T_e = critical valve closure time,

L = Length of Line, ft

a = "sonic" velocity of pressure wave, ft per sec

The maximum waterhammer pressure will occur at the closed valve provided the time to complete valve closure is less than 2L

a

The amount of waterhammer pressure, the pressure increase, is constant and maximum for valve closure times equal to or less than the critical time:

$$T \leq \frac{2L}{a}$$

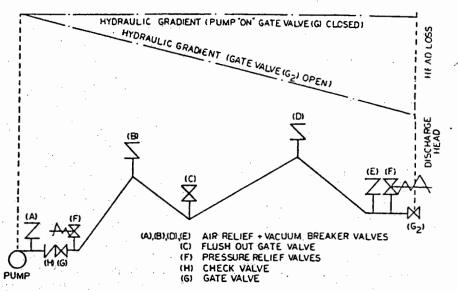


FIG. 7 Pipeline valving.

Where:

T = valve closure time, sec

Since the maximum waterhammer pressure possible at the closed valve occurs when valve closure time does not exceed

2L

the critical time of valve closure which produces a maximum waterhammer pressure rise becomes of interest. As the following summary for PVC pipe shows, this close-time period increases with increasing length of pipe line.

The critical flow-stoppage time, T_c, in seconds yielding a maximum increase of waterhammer pressure at the valve is shown in Table 4 for various pipe SDR's and pipeline lengths:

By stopping flow at rates slower than critical time, waterhammer pressures will be reduced from their maximums. Charts and graphs are available to determine the time of flow-stoppage for various valve types and flow conditions which will provide acceptable waterhammer pressures (Kephert and Davis

1961, Kerr 1958). However, some indication of valve closure time to obtain a percentage of the maximum water-hammer pressure (force) aV

g

may be obtained by, first determining the pipe-line constant, Pc:

$$P_c = \left(\frac{aV}{2gPo}\right) \left(\frac{62.37}{144}\right) = \frac{aV}{148.8Po}$$

& Since 
$$a = \frac{5892}{\sqrt{SDR - 0.443}}$$
 for PVC

$$P_{c} = \left(\frac{V}{P_{o}}\right) \left(\frac{39.6}{\sqrt{SDR-0.443}}\right)$$

Where:

P = pipeline constant

a = "sonic" velocity of pressure wave, ft per sec

TABLE 4. CRITICAL FLOW STOPPAGE TIMES ~VS~ SDR

SDR	<b>a</b> ,	T	c = 2L/a, seco	nds
OD/wali ratio	Surge velocity, ft per sec.	L=100 ft	L=1000 ft	L=10.000ft
81	656	0.31	3.05	30.5
51	829	0.24	2.41	24.1
41	925	0.22	2.16	21.6
32.5	1040	0.19	1.92	19.2
26	1165	0.17	1.72	17.2
21	1300	0.15	1.54	15.4

 $a = 5892/\sqrt{SDR-0.443}$ 

SDR = Std. dimensional ratio

a = Surge velocity, ft per sec
 Tc = Critical flow-stoppage time, sec

= Pipeline length, ft

V = velocity of pipeline flow, ft

Po = pipeline pressure before valve closure, psi

g = acceleration of gravity, 32.2 ft per sec per sec

Generally when closing a valve, most of the flow is stopped between one-quarter and three-quarters of valve closure. Hence, actual valve closing time is twice that given by  $T = \frac{2L}{r}$ 

Therefore, the actual valve closing time to produce critical flow-stoppage is approximately  $T = \frac{4L}{a}$ 

sec. But to reduce the surge by four-fifths the maximum (i.e. to 20 percent of maximum) the above mentioned charts show that valve closure times must be increased by multiplying the critical flow-stoppage time, T_c, by the following factors, N:

When 
$$\frac{P_c}{1} = \frac{N}{6.4}$$
10 11.6

Hence, valve closing times should be those shown in Table 5.

Not only is it important in design, but in actual operation as well, to insure that value closing times be of the order of magnitude shown in Table 5. One means for ensuring safe waterhammer pressures is to limit the maximum velocity in the pipe line. Also shown in Table 5 (second column) are those velocities which will produce a maximum waterhammer pressure equal to 20 percent of the pipe's pressure (class) rating. Hence, we recommend that the design water velocity when operating at system capacity does not exceed 5 ft per sec, unless additional measures or ancillary equipment are used to ensure waterhammer pressures not in excess of 20 percent pipe's pressure (class) rating and that in no case should the velocity exceed 10 ft per sec.

# ADEQUATE DESIGN:

Air trapped in a water line can, and often does, spell trouble. If trapped at the top of a rise, it can seriously impede flow.

Air is compressible and, if carried along a pipeline can act like a spring, being compressed at the bottom of a draw and expanding at the top of a rise. Such alternate compression and expan-

TABLE 5. VALVE CLOSING TIMES ~VS~ SDR

SDR OD/wall M		v'	Valv	e closing ti	me, T, sec	onds
		lax. vel. change,	L=1	000 ft	_L=10	L=10,000 ft
ratio	٠.	ft per sec	Pc=1	Pc=10	Pc=1	Pc=10
81		5.7	19.5	35.4	195	354
51		7.2	15.4	28.0	154	280
41		8.0	14.0	26.0	140	260
32.5		9.0	12.3	22.3	123	223
26		10.2	11.3	20.5	113	205
21		11.4	9.9	17.9	99	179
P _c	N				* .7	
	5.4					
	.6					

T = N(2L/a)

 $P_c = (V/P_0)(39.6/\sqrt{SDR-0.443})$ 

 $V' = 50.5\sqrt{SDR-0.443}/(SDR-1)$ 

Pc = Pipe line constant

Po = Pressure in pipeline (before valve closure) psi.

V = Velocity in pipe line, ft per sec

V' = Max. velocity change producing waterhammer, P=0.20 PR, as by valve closure times shown

sion produces velocity fluctuations and pressure variations which, if great enough, can produce serious waterhammer pressures.

Investigations of asbestos—cement pipelines have, for example, indicated that a sudden release of entrapped air can produce pressure increases which may be as much as 10 times the normal operating pressure of the lines. Similar magnitudes of pressure increase in PVC are believed also to occur—as witnessed when damaged pipelines were examined.

Water-column separation can also result in excessive waterhammer pressures when the separated column rejoins at high velocity. Furthermore, when the minimum pressure at any point in a line drops to the vapor pressure of water, the waterhammer solution is no longer valid. (Kephert and Davis 1961)

To prevent damage as a result of air entrapment during initial filling of a pipeline and to keep air from getting into the line from operating pumps, provisions should be made to remove air from the line at all high points. Combined air-relief and vacuum-breaker valves should be located at high points, (A), (B), (D), and (E) indicated in the diagram, Fig. 7.

A pressure-relief valve at (F) will limit waterhammer pressure which might result from too rapidly closing the gate valve—at the right end of the diagram. A flush valve (C) will help remove possible debris from the line's low point.

Reasons for locating the several combined air-relief and vacuum-breaker valves are as follows:

1 Air has a tendency to accumulate at crests and along the downstream side of the crest. Hence, several air vents

should be located downstream of the crest and vented, through a manifold, into the air release valve located at the crest.

- 2 The valve at (A) is to eliminate air from a deep-well-pump column at startup and limits waterhammer at the check valve.
- 3 The valve at (B) is to eliminate air between the pump and (B) upon initial line-fill, to vent air accumulation with the system in operation under pressure and to avoid column separation if the pressure should drop below atmospheric.
- 4 The valve at (D) is to eliminate air between (C) and (D) and to avoid column separation.
- 5 The valve at (E) is to eliminate air between (D) and (E) and to avoid possible pipe collapse (in the case of thinner wall pipe, such as SDR 32.5 or higher (SDR) due to high water velocity which may exist going through the gate valve at the downstream end of the line. (Sturm 1970, Lescovich 1972).

In many instances, manually operated globe and gate valves have been installed on pipelines to eliminate air at high points. While cheaper than combined air-relief and vacuum-breaker valves, their use should be discouraged because they must be opened (and closed) manually. The automatic protection provided by the more sophisticated air-relief and vacuum-breaker valves is well worth their additional cost. Performance proves it.

If a line is laid in relatively flat terrain, provide at least three combined air-relief and vacuum-breaker valves. One should be in the pump discharge line ahead of the check and gate valves. A second should be near the middle of the line and the third at the downstream end of the line. If several laterals take off from the main supply line, each one should have a combined air-relief and vacuum-breaker valve at its outermost

Everett (1967) points out that: "a popular misconception concerning waterhammer in a pumping system involves the relative gradient and system pressure. It is assumed that a low flat gradient and a low pressure will minimize the shock pressure. Conversely, a steep gradient and a high pressure on the system will produce an excessive shock pressure. This misconception should be reversed. Long flat lines with a small amount of gradient develop more shock pressure and are more susceptible to line failure than steep gradients at high pressure."

#### ADEQUATE DESIGN: PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Many installations of PVC piping are supplied by motor-driven centrifugal pumps. These will be either horizontalshaft pumps or vertical-shaft deep well turbine pumps, both driven by constant speed squirrel cage induction motors. In general, 10HP and smaller will have full-voltage across-the-line starter units. Motors of greater horsepower will generally be provided with reduced-voltage starting. Hence, a pump-control of the flow in such cases is not possible. Flow control can be achieved by the opening or closing of a gate valve in the pump discharge, but must be done slowly and with due caution to the operating characteristics of the pump-drive system.

The designer of a PVC piping system supplied by the above mentioned pumpbeging facilities, must consider the followanding features to ensure satisfactory performance:

- Remove air from the line as it is being filled using automatic air-removal valves, properly sized and located at:
  - the pump discharge. (a)
  - (b) high points in the pipeline.
- the downstream end of the
- 2 Remove air from the riser pipe on deep well turbine pumps at start-up by a suitable air removal valve.
  - Provide pressure-relief valves at:
  - ahead of the gate valve in the pump discharge line.
  - at the downstream end of the pipe lines.
- 4 It may be necessary to install surge arrestors or automatic pressure re-

ducing valves at:

- flow regulators. (b) pump discharge.
- 5 It may be necessary to provide flow controllers so as to keep down the rate of filling and to reduce the start-up
  - pump discharge. (a)

surge in a filled lined at:

- at downstream end of pipe
- Always use a non-slam and preferably a controlled closing-rate checkvalve at the pump discharge.
- Besides protecting the pipe at pump start-up, provisions should be considered for reducing waterhammer at pump shut-down or at emergency shutoff as can occur from a power outage.
- 8 When shutting the system off, especially if it is to be started up again within several hours, the system should be designed, if possible, so as to keep out all air, then restart can begin with a completely, water-filled system.
- 9 Where the level of draw-down in the water supply can drop below that of the pump intake-line, air could be drawn in. This should be avoided and can be accomplished by the use of a pump-feed level-control.
- The pump drive should operate at a relatively constant speed and not capable of suddenly racing to excessive speeds. A drive provided with throttled speed control is an advantage at start-up and at shut-off.

Check valves are used to protect the pump and drive from damage by a flow reversal and/or waterhammer. To protect the pipe line, use a non-slam check valve at a centrifugal-pump discharge so as to limit waterhammer pressure to a minimum. The check valve should close at the point of zero velocity, before the mercial Catalogues). reflected surge wave returns from the downstream end. For even further protection, a surge-relief device (pressurerelief valve, surge chamber, etc.) should be located just downstream of the check valve.

Each type of irrigation system has its peculiarities of operating pressures and potential for surge which must be taken into account. Every system must be analyzed in the light of its own performance behavior and requirements, allowable water velocity, hydraulic gradient and pipeline profile (especially that leaving the pump discharge), pipe diameter, pipe wall thickness, and the needs for protective equipment selected to provide a satisfactory, economic

Where waterhammer pressures could develop with sufficient magnitude to damage PVC pipe, joining methods should be considered having one of the two following possibilities:

- 1 Use gasketed joints to confine the damage.
- 2 Where solvent-weld joints are used, install gasketed joints periodically to restrict the length of line damage should excessive waterhammer pressures

While the use of air chambers can protect a line by limiting waterhammer pressures, they must be properly sized, correctly located and adequately main-

Pressure relief valves are actuated by a small increase in pressure above a preset value. They open to discharge water, thereby relieving pressure somewhat and restraining its build-up to a degree.

Since there are many appurtenances for pipeline protection and because of the varied flow conditions associated with a pipeline system, calculations to determine and control waterhammer can be complex. Analysis and treatment of the problem must be tempered with judgment and experience. This paper is concerned essentially with elementary elastic wave theory to determine the magnitude of waterhammer pressures. It is limited in its application to single lines of constant cross-section, containing valves and gates. The determination: of waterhammer pressures and associated variations in lines supplied by pumps or supplying turbines cannot be adequately treated in a paper as limited in scope as this one.

An excellent treatment of valves used for surge control has been given in an article by Weaver (1972). Additional references are also given (Ref: Com-

#### PROPER INSTALLATION

Properly installed pipe is a subject not to be ignored or overlooked, but will not be covered to any extent except to note that it should be done by accepted practices and in such a way as to permit safe operation. PVC pipe, like any piping material should be handled and treated with reasonable care. Rough handling, dropping the pipe, allowing it to strike or be struck by objects either before or after installation can seriously damage and weaken the pipe. Such impact damage, unfortunately, is not always apparent. If the pipe line gradient is steep, laying the pipe closer to grade will help to reduce the accumulation of air pockets. More detailed instruction in pipe line installation can be found in several references noted (SCS

432-D, SCS 432-E, ASTM D 2321, ASTM D 2774).

#### RESPONSIBLE USE

A very important factor in the responsible use of an irrigation system is proper system start-up. With an empty pipe line, fill as slowly as possible, observing the following cautions:

1 Never completely close the gate valve in the discharge of a deep well turbine type pump, because of the excessive shut-off head that develops.

2 Open all manual valves except in the pump discharge. Start filling the line slowly. It is suggested not to fill at a velocity in excess of 1 ft per sec. If it should be necessary to interrupt pumping while in the process of filling a pipe line, upon restart slow down the input rate even more (a velocity of 1/2 ft per sec maximum is recommended). When restarting into a partly filled line, the appraching steep water front (i.e. the approaching wall of water) may slam into the back of a stationary wall or into a more slowly moving water boundary with sufficient force to cause a rapid slow down of advancing water rate, particularly if air becomes entrapped between the fronts, and often results in damaging waterhammer pressures.

When water begins to discharge from the downstream end, there will most likely still be pockets of entrapped air. Continue to pump water through at a slow rate until no air is evident for at least a fifteen minute period. Then, if possible, shut off the pump while closing the system to keep air from getting in. Wait about 15 min before starting to pump again. Maintain the slow rate of flow until no air can be seen or heard at the discharge end for a least 15 min.

4 Close all manual valves slowly so as to increase the pressure slowly to the full operating line pressure, taking at least 10 min to do so. For larger diameter pipe (6 in. or larger), for longer lines (more than 1000 ft) and for the higher operating pressures (in excess of 100 psi) proportionately more than 10 min should be taken to bring the pressure

No valve should ever be closed in less than 10 sec (i.e. no less than 5 sec from one-quarter to three-quarters closed). preferably 30 sec or more would be a far safer valve-closure time.

Starting to pump into a filled line requires that velocity buildup and its attendant pressure rise be done gradually. The water should be started into

the line slowly by either manual control or by automatic control and once assured that the line is free of air, the flow should be increased at a rate slow enough to limit waterhammer pressure.

Many times an irrigation system will be interrupted momentarily (i.e. shut off for a period of from 10 min to possibly several hours). It is just as important then to slow down flow as when slowly increasing flow at start-up. In so doing, close all valves to keep water in and to keep all air out. Then when restarting, it will not be necessary to repurge the line

When stopping an irrigation system at any time for any reason, it is just as important that it be done with the same due care and caution as that for startup. However, provisions should be made to assure protection from excessive waterhammer pressures, automatically at emergency shut-down (as by power outages, etc.). While such automatic means are protective, they generally do not reduce waterhammer pressure enough to be relied upon for repeated, routine shut-offs. In such cases, additional manual slow down or automatic throttling should be employed.

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Ventura, Cal.

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Surge Arrestors: Golden Anderson Valve Speciality Co. Pittsburgh, Pa. Relief & Back Pressure Control Valves:

Ross Valve Manufacturing Co., Troy, N.Y.
Apco Air Release Valves & Silent Check
Valves: Valves & Primer Corp. Elk Grove Village, Ill.

Crispin Air Valves: Multiplex Manufacturing Co. Berwick, Pa.

Air Vent, Vacuum Relief & Pressure Relief

Valves: Waterman Industries, Exeter, Cal.
Air Release, Vacuum, Pressure Relief &
Silent Check Valves: Eddy-Iowa (Div. of

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Clow) Oskalousa, Ia,
Pressure, Vacuum, Relief Valves: Western
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TLE	EXTERNAL	LOAD	DESIGN	• :	 PAGE_	1

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Partitioning (Op 17)	4.7.9.5.9	Library Module
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PROGRAMMER_

Karl Larson

DATE March 1982

Printer_

Yes Cards 2 sides

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program finds the vertical deflection of a flexible pipe, based on the magnitude of the live load applied at ground surface and the dead load of the soil on the pipe. The Modified Iowa Equation is used to find the vertical deflection in the pipe.  $\Delta Y = L/\Delta X = \frac{D_L(K)(WC)r^3/l}{EI + .061(E')r^3} \quad \text{where } WC = \frac{WDP + WL}{12} \quad \text{and } D_L = 1.5$ 

$$\Delta Y = L/\Delta X = \frac{D_L(K)(WC)r^3/l}{EI + .061(E')r^3}$$

and K = 0.10

and WL = 
$$\frac{0.18(P)(BC)}{H^2}$$

and WDP = H(w)(BC)

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USEN	1142 L U	U	$\sim$ 1 1	S	110

STEP	PROCEDURE	ENTER	F	PRESS	3	DISPLAY
1.	Insert Mag Card 2 sides	1, 2				1., 2.
2.	Input height of fill over pipe, in feet			В		Prints H
3.	Input outside pipe diameter, in feet		,	С		Prints BC
4.	Input soil unit weight, in pounds per cubic	feot		D		Prints UNWT
5.	Input concentrated live load at ground sur	ace, inpound	s	E	:	Prints P
6.	Input Modulus of Soil Reaction, in psi			2nd	A	Prints E'
	(See Table on Sheet 2)					
7.	Input Modulus of Tensile Elasticity of pipe	, in psi		2nd	В	Prints E
	a. PVC E = 400,000 psi b. Steel E = 29,000,000 psi					
8.	Input wall thickness of pipe, in inches			2nd	C	Prints T
9.	Input impact factor for live load			2nd	D	Prints IF
	a. Select value between 1.1 and 1.5 for soi	l cover				
	b. Select value of 1.0 for depths greater					
10.	To begin Calculations and to print out the		• ]	A		
	a. Live Load (WL) at pipe depth, in #/lin.					Prints WL
.=	b. Dead Load (WDP) at pipe depth, in #/lih					Prints WDP Prints WC
	c. Total load (WC) at pipe depth, in #/lind. Amount of vertical deflection in inches					Prints WC Prints DEFL
	e. Amount of vertical deflection, in perce		er			Prints DFL
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_PAGE _1 OF 2 TI Programmable _ Coding Form



PROGRAMMER Karl Larson

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ļ	GM, GC, SM, SC contains more than 12% fines Coarse-grained Soils with Little or No Fines	1.					
	GW, GP, SW, SPc contains less than 12% fines Crushed Rock	1,000	1.000	2,000 3,000	3,000		
	Accuracy in Terms of Percentage Deflection ^d	±2	±2	±1	±0.5		
	•ASTM Designation D-2487, USBR Designation E-	3.					
	*LL = Liquid limit.  *Or any borderline soil beginning with one of these	symbols (i.e.	GM-GC.	GC-SC).			
	*For ±1% accuracy and predicted deflection of 3 4%.	%, actual de	flection we	ould be betwe	en 2% and	-	
	Note: Values applicable only for fills less than 5	0 ft (15 m).	Table does	s not include	any safety		
	factor. For use in predicting initial deflections only, a for long-term deflections. If bedding falls on the bord			-			
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FLEXIBLE PIPE EXTERNAL LOAD DESIGN

PAGE 2 OF 2 TI Programmable Date March 1982 Coding Form

Karl Larson PROGRAMMER.

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## **EXAMPLE PROBLEM**

Given: Height of Fill over Pipe = 4 feet.

Outside Diameter of Pipe = 1 foot.

Unit Weight of Soil over Pipe =  $120^{\#}/_{4}$ ft³. Live Load of Ground Surface =  $10,000^{\#}$ . Modulus of Soil Reaction = 700 psi.

Modulus of Elasticity of Pipe = 400,000 psi.

Wall Thickness of Pipe = 0.299 inches.

Impact Factor for Live Load = 1.2.

# Procedure

- 1. Input the given values in accordance with instructions in Appendix 5.
- 2. Press A.
- 3. Calculator prints out:
  - a. Live Load =  $360^{\#/1}$ in.ft.
  - b. Dead Load =  $480^{\#}/1$ in.ft.
  - c. Total Load =  $70^{\#}/1$ in. inch.
  - d. Vertical Deflection = 0.25 inches.
  - e. Vertical Deflection = 2.055% of Pipe Diameter.

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TI Programmable

Program Record

PROGRAMMER West NTC/ Larson

Partitioning (Op 17) 6,3,9,3,9 Library Module

Jan 1983 DATE_

Printer PC100C Cards 3 banks

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program will find the peak pressures whether the valve is closed in NOTES: less time than the critical time or not. All outputs are pressures at the valve. The program will not evaluate varying pipe sizes. Principal reference for this program is "Waterhammer Analysis" by John Parmakian and the Uni-Bell Plastic Pipe Association.

Valve closure time (TC) is defined as about 50% of the actual closing time of most valves.

Input Da	tu				
24.	ΙD	USER INSTRUCTION	NS		
0.685 4.3	VD 3	E	ENTER	PRESS DI	SPLAY
6730. 5.	L TC	Trial 2		Trial 3	
400000, 205. Output	E HD /	20.	TC	30.	TĊ
14. 16150135	2L/A	14. 16150135	2L/A	14.16150135	2L/A
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7.080750677. 0. 0. 126.925343 0.000	TIME P+ A>F+ A>H+	7.080750677 .0759461474 3.022353687 37.71295266 0;	TIME 8 V + F-	7.080750677 .0898209405 3.474784695 24.35831062 0.	TIME A V F+ F=0
14. 46150135 0. 0. 126. 925343 0000000005 126. 925343	TIME V+ - + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	14.16150135 .0343217681 1.487867865 83.00717109 0000000005 83.00717109	TIME V F+ F- H+	14.16150135 .0620713543 2.541406893 51.90931005 0000000005 51.90931005	TIME A V F+ F- H+
21. 24225203 0. 0. 0. -126. 925343 -126. 925343 126. 925343		21.24225203 0. 0. 39.21239031 -37.71295266 51.49943765 (83.00717109	TIME V F+ H+ H+	21.24225203 .0343217681 1.366333601 62.23625073 -24.35831062 37.87794011 51.90931005	TIME H F + + H+
MAX TOTAL HEFD	n+HU =	MAX TOTAL HEFD 288.0071711	= H+HD	MAX TOTAL HERD 256.90931	=   H÷HD

TITLE GENERAL WA	TERHAMMER AN	ALYSIS	Append PAGE	ix 6 2_OF_4_	TI Program	nmoble (1)
PROGRAMMER			DATE		Coding	Form Y
LOC CODE KEY	COMMENTS	LOC CODE		COMMENTS	<del>                                   </del>	COMMENTS
160 55 ÷ CL 161 162 A3 RCL 163 A43 RCL 164 A3 RCL 165 A3 RCL 165 A3 RCL 166 A3 RCL 166 A3 RCL 166 A3 RCL 166 A3 RCL 167 A67 A67 A29	COMMENTS	15678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012322222222222222222222222222222222222		COMMENTS	270 43 F 271 07 E 272 69 E 273 06 F 273 06 F 274 03 5 275 55 8 276 277 278 33 95 2 277 278 239 42 2 281 200 75 F 282 283 284 20 85 2 283 284 20 85 2 284 20 85 2 285 287 42 8 287 42 8 288 21 L 290 43 R 291 292 293 43 R 292 293 43 R 293 294 22 2 294 295 69 G 297 298 21 R 298 298 21 R 298 21 R 298 21 R 298 21 R 298 21 R 298 21 R 298 298 298 298 298 298 298 298 298 298	CL 07



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IT! F	GENERAL	WATER	HANNER	ANALYSIS	PAGE	1	OF	4

TI Programmable

Program Record

PROGRAMMER West NTC/ Larson

DATE Jan 1983

Printer PC1000 Cards 3

banks

Partitioning (Op 17) 1 6 3 9 3 9 Library Module

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program provides a detailed analysis of water hammer caused by valve closure. It can be used for any type of pipe material if the user knows the modulus of elasticity. It first prints out the critical closure time (2L/a), then starts at time zero and computes and prints the effective discharge area at the valve, the flow velocity through the valve, the direct pressure wave head, the reflected pressure wave head, and the net surge pressure head. These values are found at intervals of L/a successively until a peak is found. The peak pressure head is finally printed out for the user to compare with the strength of thepipe under consideration. Other valve closing times can be easily calculated by inputting only the new time of closure if all other values remain constant.

USER INSTRUCTIONS

	USER INSTRUC	TIONS				200
STEP	PROCEDURE	ENTER	!	PRESS	3	DISPLAY
1	Set calculator partition	a	2nd	Op	17	639.39
2	Insert magnetic cards	1, 2, 3				1., 2., 3
3	Input pipe diameter (inside) in inches			A		Prts ID
4	Input pipe wall thickness in inches			В		Prts T
5	Input initial design flow velocity in fps			С	·	Prts VO
6	Input pipe length in feet			D		Prts L
7	Input effective valve closure time in seco	nds	2nd	A		Prts TC
18	Input Modulus of Elasticity of the pipe ma	terial in psi	2nd	. В		Prts E
9	Input design pressure head at the valve in	feet	2nd	С		Prts HO
10	To begin calculations			E		
	a. Calculator finds critical closure time					Prts 2L/A
	b. Begins at time zero, then progressivel		mes			Prts TIME
	<ul> <li>c. Finds actual flow area through valve a</li> <li>d. Finds velocity through the valve at ti</li> </ul>	(				Prts A Prts V
	e. Finds magnitude of the direct pressure		tim	e t		Pris F+
	f. Finds magnitude of the reflected press	ire wave head	at	time	t	Prts F-
	g. Finds magnitude of the net surge press					Prts H+
	h. Finds new time t (multiples of L/a) and the outputs described above. When the					
	decrease from the preceding value of H			,		
	and the calculator reprints the peak v	alue of H+ ar	d th		е	
. L	total maximum head on the pipe at the	<del>valve (H+HO)</del>		·		

total max1	mum head on the pipe	at the valve (H+HO).		
USER DEFINED KEYS	DATA REGISTERS ( INV. E	2)	LABELS (Op 08)	
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В	1	1	(F   [1/x]   STO   RCL	SUM TE
c	2	2		_ <u>610</u> _ X
D	3	3	SBR RST _ T	
E	4	4		
) A	5	5		
B*	6	6		
c	. 7	7		<b>6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</b>
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PAGE_1_OF_L

TI Programmable Coding Form

ROGRAMMER_

DATE

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045 7			100 9	1 R/S		155	91 R/S	
046 .1			101 7			156	7€ LBL-	
047 4			102 1			[ 157 ]	15 E	
048 0	2 02		103 4				40 RCL	-
049 j		**	104 0				02 02	
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